SUMMARY TRANSLATION OF "RADIO" NO. 7 [JULY] FOR 1986

[These are rough, arbitrarily-selected, summary translations of articles of possible interest to radio amateurs, from the Soviet magazine RADIO, published jointly by the Ministry of Communication and the military training organization DOSAAF. Remarks by the translator are enclosed in (square) brackets.]

pp 2 - 4: "SPEED UP THE RADIO AMATEUR MOVEMENT!" by Yu[riy Borisovich] Zubarev, Chairman, Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR [also, as of 1982 and presumably still, Deputy Minister of Communication of the USSR; though he is not known to hold an amateur call-sign, though there is precedent for issuance of one on a courtesy basis to an official of his standing -- Vasiliy Mikhaylovich Bondarenko, Chief of the Central Radio Club Named After E. T. Krenkel', was issued UV3BW (Bondarenko Wasilij) under seemingly similar circumstances.]

Radiosport and amateur radio cannot remain on the sidelines from the party's strategic line, set out at the XXVIIth party congress, to accelerate the social-economic development of the country on the basis of scientific-technical progress. Radiosport and amateur radio are not goals in themselves, but rather are called upon to participate actively in the carrying out of economic tasks and the all-round strengthening of the defense potential of our homeland.

It is from these points of view that we must examine the state of affairs in amateur radio and radiosport and try to determine why the present state of the amateur radio movement cannot be considered satisfactory.

Let's consider some official statistics. But only reliable statistics are of use. Unfortunately, the figures on the numbers of those engaging in radiosport and in amateur radio based on reports of DOSAAF committees in recent years have turned out to be clearly too high. This is shown by the fact that after things were straightened out by the DOSAAF Central Committee the figures quickly fell. Thus, in 1982, based on local data, the number of radiosportsmen exceeded half a million, and as of 1 January 1986 the corresponding figure was 338,000. Even the latter figure is questionable, but if we accept it the mass level of the organized amateur radio movement in the country is clearly unsatisfactory.

Leaving aside problems concerning DOSAAF radioamateur-constructors for separate discussion, let's examine the rate of growth of mass participation in individual forms of [radio]sport.

As is known, the oldest form of radiosport in our country is shortwave radiocommunication; somewhat later, in the early 30's, ultrashortwave communication began to develop.

Back at the IVth DOSAAF congress the task was assigned to have not less than 25,000 amateurs by the end of 1962. It took over 15 years to approach this figure. "At the present time, according to official statistics, there are 48 thousand stations. Of them, only about 5 thousand are collective" stations.

"It is believed that 103,275 persons, including observers [SWL's], engage in shortwave and ultrashortwave radiocommunication. There are significantly fewer active operators, not to speak of those active on a fairly regular basis. Call-signs of not more than 10 to 15 thousand radioamateurs are heard on the air. Can we consider this satisfactory? Of course not."

We clearly have an insufficient number of collective stations, which traditionally and legitimately are considered centers of the amateur radio movement. They should also serve as examples for the introduction of new radiocommunication techniques, including communication via satellite.

There are especially few collective stations in DOSAAF primary organizations in intermediate, general-education schools, and in higher educational institutions. Back in 1981, the VIIth DOSAAF Plenum of the DOSAAF Central Committee assigned the task of having one collective station for each 20 to 25 general education schools, technical schools, and teachers colleges. Almost five years have passed, but even today we are very far from fulfilling this decision. For example, in the Armenian SSR there is one collective station for all of the educational institutions.

In Moscow, there are over 1200 schools, but only 10 collective stations are installed in them.

What's the explanation? To a large degree it is contained in a letter received by the editors of "Radio" magazine from Mikhail Kozlov, an amateur in Ivanovo.

He writes that on 2 March 1986 a meeting was held of amateurs from the shortwave and ultrashortwave sections of the oblast'. Special concern was expressed over the fact that collective stations had gone completely silent from the Ivanovo Energy Institute, the radio technical schools, the DYuSTSh [detsko-yunosheskaya sportivno-tekhnicheskaya shkola - children's-young people's sport-technical school], and the towns/cities of Teykovo, Kineshma, Shuyad and other rayons of the Oblast'. Formerly, when there was an oblast' radio club, it concerned itself with the development of a network of collective stations in the center and the periphery and helped with equipment and parts. After the radio club was converted into a united technical school, its leaders have only helped to a limited extent to organize radio exhibitions and zonal competitions. Collective stations have been neglected and many have broken up.

Such examples abound. Unfortunately, there are significantly fewer positive ones. But they do exist in places where the amateur community and federations of radio sport take an active role, display initiative and energy, don't wait for orders [to come from above], and enjoy the support of DOSAAF committees. That's how things are, for example, in Donetskaya oblast'.

I cannot pass by in silence another matter about which the amateur community must, in my view, speak out loudly. The number of high scores achieved in competitions by fraudulent means has increased extraordinarily in radiosport. Excessive power, additions to reports on participation in competitions, dummy team-members, have become everyday occurrences in some places. We know of this,

yet we take no effective measures against fakery. I think committees of the FRS USSR, local FRS's, and the CRC of the USSR Named After E. T. Krenkel' should develop means of evaluating sport results that practically eliminate the possibility of fraud.

Federations of radio sport should pay special attention to problems connected with the further development of speed radiotelegraphy. According to data from DOSAAF committees, only 106,000 now engage in this form of radiosport.

As is known, speed radiotelegraphy can develop with equal success in any area of the country, regardless of geographical or climatic conditions. DOSAAF committees, however, simply don't give attention to this important activity. This can only be explained by underestimation of the military-application significance of radiosport by those called upon to ensure its development.

The fact that only 22,000 persons engage in radiomen mixed events also cannot be considered satisfactory. Practice shows that draftees who have engaged in mixed events are as a rule excellent additions to our Armed Forces. Federations of radio sport need to overcome this lagging behind in radio mixed events and assume special control over its development.

And how about sport radiodirectionfinding? The same statistics show that 48,000 engage in "fox-hunting."

But while being concerned over the mass character of radiosport, we mustn't for a minute forget about the quality of training for sportsmen. For example, the quality of training for "fox-hunters" leaves something to be desired. Many of them have exceptionally low scores in competitions.

Unsatisfactory training of first-category sportmen and of candidate masters of sport is of particular concern.

The broad introduction of volunteerism into the organization of radiosport and amateur radio represents an inexhaustible means for bringing about an ursurge in our work. Individual radio clubs (samodeyatel'nyye radiokluby) are called upon to play an important part in this but there are only about 350 of them. Of course there could be many times as many but no one really takes charge of organizing them at the local level.

The excellent experience gathered in Volgogradskaya oblast', where thanks to the combined efforts of DOSAAF committees and the oblast' federation of radio sport, actively supported by party and soviet organs, over two hundred adolescent sport technical clubs, including volunteer clubs, were organized, has been reported on in "Radio" magazine. It's too bad the Volgograders' experience has not yet been duplicated elsewhere.

There are only a few volunteer radio clubs and sections in intermediate schools, teachers colleges, technical schools, and higher educational institutions. Only 0.3% of schoolchildren, 0.6% of teachers-college students, and 0.9% of students at higher educational institutions engage in radiosport. It is impossible to accept such a state of affairs. The amateur community and radiosport enthusiasts simply must infect young people with their own enthusiasm and transfer their experience and knowledge to them.

All federations of radio sport must work out long-range programs for developing radiosport and amateur radio in educational institutions, of course coordinating their plans with DOSAAF committees and with educational authorities.

Attracting young people in the village into amateur radio is a serious problem. To be honest, federations of radio sport must recognize that despite many decisions of the Central Committee of DOSAAF USSR, the rural areas remain unplowed virgin soil.

What reasons prevent a more rapid development of radiosport and of amateur radio? One of them is the absence of a precise system of leadership on the part of DOSAAF committees at the different levels. Up til now this has only been talked about in the corridors.

The following situation has come about. Radiotechnical schools and united technical schools, under which many sport clubs operate (they are in fact the only organizations that can carry on qualified work, training volunteer trainers, judges, etc.) are subordinated to the Administration of Military and Radio Training of the Central Committee of DOSAAF USSR [CC DOSAAF USSR] and to the Administration of Military-Technical Training of CC DOSAAF USSR. These administrations, when you come right down to it, are not responsible for the level of development of radiosport. This task is assigned to the Administration of Technical and Military-Application Forms of Sport CC DOSAAF USSR, but this administration lacks the means for actively influencing school principals (and they are the ones who in the majority of cases are the heads of sport clubs).

The creation of sport technical clubs [STK's] at the local level didn't fully resolve the problem either, particularly since STK's don't exist everywhere at the republic level not to speak of the oblast' and kray levels. It would seem also that some STK's are organized for sport purposes and others engage in money-making activities. There are radiosport sections in only about a third of the 2860 such clubs.

Federations of radio sport must occupy an active, party-like battle position in all matters relating to the further upsurge in the amateur radio movement. Recently the presidium of the FRS USSR adopted a decision "On Tasks Involving the Development of Mass Radiosport and Amateur Radio Resulting from Decisions of the XXVIIth Congress of the CPSU [Communist Party of the Soviet Union]." Its main goal is to rouse the masses of radiotechnology enthusiasts to search for new, more effective, and progressive forms and methods of working with young people, on helping DOSAAF members, through radiosport and radio amateur construction, to gain knowledge of microelectronics and computer technology.

We shall doubtless accomplish these tasks. But to do so it is necessary to overcome lagging-behind, to uncover shortcomings, and to push radiosport and amateur radio forward.

p 5: "WHO NEEDS ENTHUSIASTS?" by Ye. Turubara.

"Acceleration" and "reorganization" -- these words never leave the pages of the periodical press. They define the essence of the time, the tasks facing the [Defense] Society [DOSAAF] in all spheres of its activity. They affect mass amateur radio, in which a number of problems have accumulated requiring rapid solution. This is attested to by letters to the editors. Everything is not going smoothly in the million-strong amateur radio family.

The last mail brought two letters from rural areas. Despite their differences, they both speak of general difficulties faced by the rural radio amateur.

The first is from Yuriy Sergeyevich Dmitriyev, UA3OI, chief of the school radiostation, UZ3NWD, in the village of Grigortsevo, Nerekhtskiy rayon, Kostromskaya Oblast'.

I became a partisan radio operator at the age of 18 [writes Dmitriyev] and after the war taught physics and mathematics in an intermediate school, where I later opened a collective station. The DOSAAF rayon committee has lost interest in radiomen and is indifferent in our troubles and problems. The result is that our fine radio classroom is empty and fewer and fewer kids visit the collective station. This is too bad; [otherwise] it would be possible to organize a DOSAAF rural radio club in our school.

The second letter was from Nikolay Petrovich Rossovskiy, from the Siberian village of Karapsel', Ivanskiy rayon, Krasnoyarskiy kray. He also organized a radio circle in his school.

At first [writes Rossovskiy], everything was going well. The radio activity was given three rooms and the students fixed them up themselves and prepared equipment for learning Morse code. Twenty-eight kids came to Morse code class. As the next step we planned to go on the air with a collective station. And then nothing went right. For over one and a half years now I've been battling with the Krasnoyarsk Radio Club attached to the DOSAAF Radio Technical School. I've submitted documents for collective and individual callsigns three times. But no results. Evidently, "deaf-mutes" work there. It's the same story with issuance of equipment for the fox-hunting circle.

Naturally, the kids have stopped trusting me and, tiring of waiting, are leaving the circle: Of 28, only 4 of the most patient remain.

What's the result? I see from your magazine that the basic problem in circles and clubs located in towns is space. With us it's the reverse. In the school they help us out, but the DOSAAF organizations have no use for us.

The basic problem in both cases is indifference.

Is it necessary to explain to the DOSAAF officials in both places that radiosport is one of the most important military-application forms of sport, one which enables rural kids to gain practical knowledge of electronics, and that teachers such as Dmitriyev and Rossovskiy are priceless finds for a rural school.

pp 6 - 8: "CLUB OF THE YOUNG," by A. Popov, Director of the Penze DOSAAF House.

The history of radiosport in Penze goes back to 1928, when a short wave section [sektsiya korotkikh voln] was formed. A collective station operated way back then.

Today there are about 500 amateur stations in Penze, of which 40 are collective stations.

The collective station of the DOSAAF primary organization at the watch [? - clock? - the same Russian word chasy/chasovoy means both] plant [chasovoy zavod] is UZ4FWO, led by Master of Sport International Class Leonid Yevgen'yevich Chernev.

Another strong collective, the speed radiomen section [sektsiya radistov-skorostnikov] attached to the DOSAAF city committee and trained by Mikhail Ivanovich Stepin, was growing at the same time.

UZ4FWO was organized in 1975. A whole antenna farm appeared atop the Place of Culture, where the station was housed: 12- and 8-element antennas for 10m, 10- and 8-element antennas for 15m, and 6- and 3-element antennas for 20m. UZ4FWO was first in the Soviet Union to have a 5-element beam for 40m and a 3-element beam for 80m.

Later the two collectives and their leaders began to work together. The "Impul's" club was formed and in 1985 a DYuSTSh [see page two for expansion] was organized. Chernev was its Director, UZ4FWO its collective station, and Stepin its trainer of high-speed operators.

pp 8 - 10: "'PROGRESS' AT A SNAIL'S PACE" [literally "with a turtle's step"], by A. Gusev [UA3AVG], special correspondent, "Radio" magazine, Kiev - Khar'kov - Moscow.

Shortwave and ultrashortwave communication equipment, radiodirectionfinders, electronic keyers, and much more is necessary to achieve mass participation in radiosport. Not only must there be enough equipment but it must be of high quality.

How do matters stand with sport equipment today?

"At the present time," writes A. Abramov, deputy chief of collective station UB4MZE, in a letter to the editor, "a situation has developed in which not even every collective finds it possible to build equipment corresponding to modern requirements. And this to a significant extent decreases, for example, the authority of DOSAAF radio stations as centers of the amateur radio movement. Therefore at the station you can't get by without commercially-built equipment, which should serve as a model for the radio amateur. But it's impossible to buy such equipment. Difficulty in acquiring sport equipment, it must be said, is doubtless holding back the development of radiosport."

Abramov is right. By no means is every sport collective -- let alone every individual amateur -- in a position to build a transceiver, a radiodirection finder, or even an electronic keyer with memory. Modern elements aren't cheap, and what's more many aren't for sale. Everything manufactured during the eleventh five-year-plan to meet the needs of radiosport can be counted on the fingers of both hands.

But we'll leave the subject of the manufacture of radio parts and equipment by "big industry" for later discussion. Let's look at how matters stand with the manufacture of equipment for radiosport in DOSAAF enterprises. After all it is they, first of all, that must satisfy requirements of DOSAAF organizations, including the collective stations about which A. Abramov wrote.

Do the technical level and quality of the radiosport products manufactured at DOSAAF enterprises meet the demands of the times? Can they compete with corresponding classes of modern foreign models?

Unfortunately it's impossible to give a positive answer to these questions. Here's what was said about the quality of autotrainers and radioequipment at a conference held at Kiev in April of this year:

"-- the technical level ... of sport radioequipment does not fully meet modern requirements of sport and educational organizations of the Defense Society;

"-- the insufficient quality of sport radioequipment has drawn justified criticism on the part of DOSAAF educational and sport organizations;

"-- systematic and goal-oriented work is not being carried on at enterprises and by the designer to raise the quality of manufactured goods, and the experience of DOSAAF sport and educational organizations in the operation of manufactured goods is not being studied."

After this it's not surprising that the editors receive letters like the one sent by Yu. Sakhnev from Chelyabinsk:

"In the oblast' DOSAAF radio technical school," we read in his letter, "I became acquainted with the 'Shkol'naya' ['School'] radiostation and with the 'Efir' ['Airwaves'] transceiver. What a pitiful [zhalkoye] impression they make! Looking at the 'Shkol'naya.' I thought that this was some sort of historic piece of equipment... The 'Efir' isn't [any] better."

This is far from the only expression of views about sport equipment designed by KhKTB DOSAAF [Khar'kovskoye konstruktorsko-tekhnologicheskoye byuro - Khar'kov Construction-Technological Bureau], and manufactured by the Kiev DOSAAF OEZ [kiyevskiy oputno-eksperimental'nyy zavod DOSAAF - Kiev Experimental Plant]. Users are also not satisfied with the microtransmitter "Mayak" ["Beacon"]. It's what's called "neither fish nor fowl" [in Russian literally "neither fish nor meat"]. As a microbeacon it's too complicated and expensive, yet "fox" functions are beyond it. The quality of the radiostation "Lavina" ["Avalanche"], intended for radio mixed events, is also criticized.

The question occurs involuntarily: Why such manufactured goods as the "Shkol'naya," "Efir," or "Mayak" ever saw the light of day?

One reason, apparently, relates to the fact that radioequipment made by DOSAAF enterprises is distributed only among DOSAAF organizations and need dictates that these organizations take everything the enterprises give. Also, they manufacture in small quantities. Last year 240 "Efir" ["Airwave"] transceivers were made. How many years will it take to satisfy radiosport needs?

Similarly, the shortage of sport equipment has dulled the contructors' sense of the new. And after all, to a large extent the technical level of manufactured articles depends on the contructors more than on anyone else. It is they who are obliged first of all to be well informed of today's state of technology and about tendencies in its development. Otherwise the contruction of modern equipment will simply be impossible.

In several speeches at the Kiev conference and at meetings of the permanent CC DOSAAF USSR commission on questions of production activities of DOSAAF enterprises [postoyanno deystvuyushchaya komissiya TsK DOSAAF SSSR po voprosam proizvodstvennoy deyatel'nosti predpriyatiy DOSAAF] it was asserted that one of the latest designs of KhKTB DOSAAF -- the "Volna" ["Wave"] transceiver -- met the highest world requirements. Alas, we must disappoint the authors of this assertion. The parameters of the "Volna" are comparable, as the designers themselves admitted at the conference, with those of the TS120 and TS130. Maybe so. But these sets were on the world market for a short period of time at the end of the seventies, and the Kiev Experimental Plant plans to make an adjustment batch [??? - trial run??? - ustanovochnaya partiya] of the "Volna" not earlier than next year. Yes, and what kind of a world level is it when the dynamic range (and today this is one of the basic parameters) is a little over 70 dB! In transceivers presently mass-produced abroad, this parameter is around 80 to 90 dB. I note, by the way, that Moscow shortwaver V[ladimir V.] Drozdov, RA3AO [ex-UA3AAO], has broken through the 100 dB barrier. [One of Drozdov's technical articles appears on pp 17 - 19 of the present issue of "Radio" and four other articles by him are cited at the end of this one.]

General Secretary M. S. Gorbachev told workers in Tol'yatti that many negative feasures in industry come from a tendency to make small improvements in what already exists rather than creating fundamentally new things that are the best in the world. He told them to abandon the philosophy of imitation and not to walk in others' footsteps on well-trodden paths.

Unfortunately, the designers at KhKTB run into bumps even on a level, well-trodden path. Here's an example, drawn from a speech at the conference by S. Kazakov [RW3DF, ex-UA3DNC], Deputy Chief of the CRC USSR Named After E. T. Krenkel'.

In ordering the design of the "Tisa" ultrashortwave transceiver accessory, the customer [presumably the ordering authority] asked that it be based on a model created by ultrashortwaver S. Zhutyayev, UA3FL, of Moscow, replacing only a few components with modern ones. This model has been reproduced by hundreds of Soviet radio amateurs and enjoys an excellent reputation. In addition, the cost of the accessory would be lowered and the design time would be reduced (and this is not unimportant if one takes into account that ultrashortwave equipment is not produced in our country at all). The constructors at KhKTB for some reason went along their own path. In place of strip transmission [??? - poloskovyye linii] used by Zhutyayev, they used ordinary circuits [kontury], which worsened the frequency stability and made tuning more difficult.

In general, things that come out into the light of day from the KhKTB have not been studied carefully. Take for instance the 160m transceiver "Yunost'" ["Youth"] transceiver. Can one consider it successful? Judge for yourself. Its wideband output stage is based on a two-cycle circuit [dvukhtaktnaya skhema] using KT934B transistors, each of which can produce an output power of 25 to 30 watts (the transistors, that is, produce a total of 50 watts!), when only five are needed. The use of a radio frequency amplifier providing a sensitivity of 5 mV required that the attenuator provided in the equipment be switched on permanently. Let us note [in all fairness] that the manufacturer, the Uzhgorod Production Combine of DOSAAF [uzhgorodskiy proizvodstennyy kombinat DOSAAF] succeeded in eliminating over 100 elements from the transceiver and in simplifying its construction, while respecting all of its electrical parameters. The only thing that's not clear is why this improved piece of equipment is not yet being produced.

Or take the UM-200 power amplifier, which the Kiev OEZ will begin to develop [osvaivat'] this year. Two tubes that are in short supply are used in it -- GU-72B's, which cost over 100 rubles apiece. One third of the cost of the amplifier is in the tubes! Why not use the widely available GU-50, cost R. 4.50 each? The imagination and the construction of the amplifier are striking [Porazhayet voobrazheniye i konstruktsiya usilitelya] [I am uncertain whether, given what follows directly, this is a positive or negative comment]. Would even a slightly experienced shortwaver wind an output circuit coil on the polystyrene frame and place it near the output tubes? [Razve stal by dazhe malo-mal'ski opytnyy korotkovolnovik namatyvat' katushku vykhodnogo kontura na polistirolovom karkase i raspolagat' eye vblizi vykhodnykh lamp]? Yet that's exactly what the workers at the KhKTB did.

It's sad that even during acceptance [? -- priyemka -- certifying or acceptance procedure?] of experimental models, when it would seem that the manufactured article would be "clean," construction deficiencies are constantly being discovered, which the designers hastily try to remove. That how it was, for example, with the "Signal" transmitter and with the "Efir-M" transceiver.

The following fact also causes concern. A portion of the most important parameters contained in a draft industrial-branch standard on stations for radiosport (by the way, there's not a word about ultrashortwave equipment) prepared by the employees of the KhKTB corresponds not even to "yesterday's" but rather to "day-before-yesterday's" sport radioequipment. At present the real selectivity of amateur receivers is evaluated not only by the third intermodulation distortion but also by fifth-order intermodulation distortion, by dynamic range, and by in-band- and cross-modulation. There is nothing in the draft standard about these. And if the draft is approved, then in the nineties we won't see modern transceivers at collective stations. However the designers, and with them the builders, citing the standard, will live in peace.

There is another reason for the constructors' peaceful life.

"We don't design articles corresponding to modern requirements," says V. Kalayev, senior constructor of radioelectronics at the DOSAAF KhKTB, "because we know beforehand that the Kiev plant -- our basic partner -- is not in a position to make such equipment."

This was confirmed by V. Moroz, chief of the KhKTB, at the meeting [presumably at the conference mentioned earlier].

A paradoxical situation results. Articles are designed, based not on modern requirements but upon the capabilities of DOSAAF enterprises. And this in our day!

To be fair, it should be noted that the possibilities of the Kiev Experimental Plant [OEZ] are extremely limited; the meeting participants convinced themselves of this when they inspected the old-fashioned, far-from-first-class installation. The proportion of machines in use was low -- the chief engineer was too embarrassed to to cite the exact figure.

I don't know who's more at fault, the constructors or the plant personnel, but the vernier mechanism [? - vern'yernyy mekhanism], which is planned to become universal in all communication equipment, is not yet complete; copies shown to the writer weren't as good as those on the R-253 and R-311 receivers. The notching [? - nasechka] on it cuts the fingers.

The Odessa construction combine of DOSAAF delivers defective printed circuits to the Kiev plant, and despite efforts at the latter to get them up to standard [dovesti do konditsii], this affects the quality of the end-product.

The plant people say they receive few complaints. However, this by no means means that the OEZ products are reliable. Radio amateurs simply prefer to overhaul them, getting them the way they like [??? - Prosto radiolyubitelyam bystreye ikh otremontirovat', dovesti "do uma"], rather than to correspond with the plant and to ship equipment back and forth.

Facts confirm that the products of the OEZ often aren't of the highest quality in the world. For example, of four "Lavrina" radiostations shipped last year to the Republic Sport Technical Club of the Estonian SSR, three turned out to have unsoldered [nepripayannyye] 500 kHz quartz resonators. Of 15 "Lavinas" sent to Brestskaya oblast', nine had band-switches that didn't work. The reason is simple. No technical checkout is performed at the plant.

"We can no longer accept the fact," noted Admiral of the Fleet G. M. Yegorov, Chairman of the CC DOSAAF USSR, at a plenum of the CC DOSAAF, "that workers of enterprises such as the Kiev Experimental Plant, make unsuitable products [negodnaya produktsiya] and live without any particular worries, receiving full wages, premiums, and other benefits."

The party has called for basic improvements in the quality of production. The Kiev OEZ, the leading DOSAAF enterprise producing equipment for radiosport, must take this to heart.

As we have seen, the problems relating to the production of equipment for radiosport by DOSAAF enterprises are many. They need to be resolved, resolved in a thorough-going way and without delay, taking account of the fact that the systematic development of radiosport has significance not only for sport, but also defense and social significance.

pp 12 - 13: "CQ-U."

INFO*INFO*INFO, edited by A. Gusev, UA3AVG

DIPLOMAS [CERTIFICATES]

The "Donskaya step'" diploma has been established for working ten members of the DOSAAF Sport Technical Club of Millerovo, Rostovskaya oblast'. From the Asian part of the country, five QSO's are sufficient; two QSO's if operation is on ultra short wave or via amateur satellite. Verified log extracts go to: 346100, g. Millerovo Rostovskoy obl., abonementnyy yashchik 35, STK DOSAAF, diplomnoy kommissii [Diploma Commission, DOSAAF Sport Technical Club, Post Office Box 35, 346100 MILLEROVO (Rostovskaya oblast').

In commemoration of the 275th anniversary of the birth of M. V. Lomonosov, the "Velikiy pomor" diploma has been established. Log extracts go to: 163002, g. Arkhangel'sk, prospekt Lomonosova, 32, RTSh DOSAAF, diplomnoy komissii [Diploma Commission, DOSAAF Radio Technical School, 32 Lomonosov Prospekt, 163002 ARKHANGEL'SK].

[NOTE CONCERNING DIPLOMA INFORMATION: The diplomas described in announcements such as the two summarized above are assumed to be for Soviet amateurs only. Information on them is nonetheless included for two reasons: First, for the general purpose of providing something of the "flavor" or "feel" of the Soviet amateur movement -- which is the basic purpose of these summary translations -- and second, for the specific purpose of providing possible QSL routes for use, in addition to Box 88, Moscow, in the event of an urgent need for a QSL card. Needless to say, if a local address is used it is especially important to avoid enclosures, such as "green stamps" or religious material, that could embarrass the recipient.]

QRP NEWS

Murmansk shortwaver R. Dubyago, UA1ZFP, reports thatwith an 80m transmitter running 20 mW he had CW QSO's with UA1O, OH, and SM; on SSB he was limited to Murmanskaya oblast'. With approximately 5 watts in the same band he worked OH, LA, SK, UB, UC, and UA0W. On 20m, with a 500 mW transmitter, he worked SP, SM, IK, DF, DK, DL, HB9, DJ, YU, G, LB, LA, OH, and the European and Asian parts of the USSR. "Operating QRP and QRPP equipment," he writes, "gives a good idea of how radiaowave propagation works, which, doubtless, helps in carrying out QRO DX QSO's successfully."

OPERATING ACHIEVEMENTS VIA RADIOAMATEUR SATELLITES

Callsign	Stations	Oblasts	Countries	Points
UZ3QYW	497	84	56	1197
UA9FDZ	534	78	54	1194
UZ1AWT	489	78	51	1134
UA4CBW	363	69	44	928
UZ9SWR	376	66	41	911
UR2JL	382	48	45	847
UR2RKI	363	42	47	808
UA9FBJ	335	51	39	785
UV3EH	352	48	38	782
UB5MGW	348	50	34	768
	*	*	*	
UI9IWA	194	55	33	634
UL7GAN	232	44	33	617
UC1CWA	94	25	20	319

[The three stations following the asterisks may have been listed in order to include union republics -- in this instance Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Belorussia -- unrepresented above the asterisks.]

The editors ask that [updated] information on operating achievements via amateur satellites be submitted by 15 September 1986.

VHF*UHF*SHF, edited by S. Bubennikov

RADIOAURORA

The "aurora" observed from 1255 UT 7 February until 0340 UT 9 February 1986 exceeded all expectations in its intensity. There was propagation 81% of the time. By comparison on 5 February 1983 an "aurora" was observed 58% of the time.

An intensive "aurora," reaching [down to] the Ukraine and permitting operation on 430 MHz, has been observed during the period 5 - 10 February since at least 1979.

During the aurora propagation from 7 to 9 February 1986, records were beaten on 144 as well as 430 MHz.

Here's what ultrashortwavers have to say:

UA4WCA from Ustinov noted a moderate "aurora" on 7 February. From 1130 UT 8 February to 0300 UT 9 February propagation occurred almost continuously. He worked 19 new stations, the furthest RA1AKS and RA1ASK in Leningrad and OH5LK.

UA4NM from Kirov worked the 2th, 4th, 5th, and 7th call areas of Finland and a number of Soviet amateurs. His further contacts were with SM2EZT and SM5IOT.

UA4NX from Kirov was informed of the propagation opening by telephone on 7 February by UA4NM. He was at work at the time and missed part of the opening; nonetheless, he got 9 new squares and 4 oblasts. In all he had 50 QSO's with 21 oblasts, and in addition worked OH1AWW and SM5CNQ (1970 km).

RA3AGS from Moscow worked one new station on the first day of the "aurora" -- OH7KK. On 8 February something unbelievable happened -- he worked stations to the west (DL9OM/DK3LL/LA2ABK/OK1EKI/OZ1GER/LA8SJ), east, and south. He heard PA3COB (2000 km) and SM3AKW inviting someone to go to 1215 MHz.

UN1CD from Petrozavodsk had 87 QSO's with 20 oblasts in three days of operation. His results would have been better but for industrial interference coming in from azimuths of 30 and 300 degrees on account of the radioaurora.

UA3DJG from the Moscow area contacted, even on the first day, 7 February, OZ1FGR/LA8SJ/OZ3GW/RB5AL. The next day brought him DL7ZM/RB5EU/UB5BAE/UB5TBI/UB5RCP/RB5AGG/OK1HAG. The first day he "caught" [vylovil] three [new] squares and on the second day eight.

UR2RHF from Yygeva, Estonian SSR, called the phenomenon that occurred 7 - 9 February a "superaurora." He had many contacts with the GDR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, the FRG, and West Berlin. He worked PA0IJM/PA3AXY/PA3BDY/PA0KDV, GM4ZRR/A, and G4KUX. UC2LBD from Brest and UB5RCP from Chernigov gave him new oblasts.

RB5EU from Sinel'nikovo, Dnepropetrovskaya oblast', described this as not the first radioaurora for his QTH but the most powerful. It began 8 February at 2040 UT and lasted five hours. Until 2300 only Soviet stations came in. Then many stations from many European countries appeared, and he worked SM5CNQ/DK1KO/OK1OA/OK2KZR/UA3PFC/UB5RCP/DK0TU/PE1AGJ/DK3UZ/UP2BAW/PA3AGS/RA3DPB/DK2PH/SM7MKT/SK5EW/UQ2GCG/UA3IFI/RQ2GAG/UQ2AO/UQ2GAJ/UQ2GMD. The OTH [QTF] in several cases reached 320 degrees, meaning that the radioaurora reached even further south. The most interesting QSO was with PE1AGJ (2115 km), which broke the USSR record!

UA3MBJ from Yaroslavskaya oblast' worked OH2DG and RA3LE (Smolensk) on 430 MHz on 7 February. Next day he heard only OH2DG on that band until 1452 UT when, on a azimuth of 305 degrees, he unexpectedly heard loud signals from OZ7UH who was working a Swede. He worked OZ7UH (1541 km), exceeding the existing USSR record.

On 430 MHz, RA3LE from Smolensk had 15 QSO's, many of them bettering the European record: DJ9BV (1430 km)/OH2DG/UA3MBJ/RC2WBH/SM4IVE/SP1JX/DF5LQ/SM7GEP/OZ1GMP/SM0RAW/SM7BAE/UQ2GAJ. On 8 February at 2246 UT he worked PA0RDY (1800 km)!

On 144 MHz, RA3LE at first tried to establish super-DX contacts, calling CQ DX G3. All sorts of PA/DL/OZ/SP/OK's created a pile-up [navalivalis']. He didn't answer them but kept calling England. And when they understood that he wouldn't deviate from his purpose, they not only stopped calling him but chased others away from his frequency. So at 0048 UT 9 February G3XDY answered his call (2060 km!). After this, RA3LE satisfied all requests for a QSO.

CHRONICLE

UL7JCK from Ust'-Kamenogorsk reports that during the Quadranids he worked UA0AET from Krasnoyarsk (945 km), giving him a fifth oblast' on 144 MHz. UL7BAT is active from Petropavlovsk and UA9UKO from Kemerovskaya oblast'; they worked each other. UA9YEB from Barnaul operated via meteor scatter.

A beacon operates from UA1ZCL, Murmanskaya oblast', on 144.390 MHz around the clock, except when the operator himself is on the air. It is intended to assist in determining the intensity of reflections from meteor trails. Its 8 dB antenna is aimed at an azimuth of 220 degrees. In the central RSFSR in late January pings and short bursts were heard regularly, with an average interval [so srednim intervalom sledovaniya] of about one minute. This was reported to the editors by UZ3DD from Klin, Moskovskaya oblast'.

RB5LGX from Khar'kovskaya oblast', informs us that a beacon, UB4EZZ, is operating from Dnepropetrovskaya oblast' on a frequency of 144.282 MHz. Despite the distance (220 km), RB5LGX can receive UB4EZZ at any time of day.

pp 17 - 19: "SUBASSEMBLIES [UZLY] OF A MODERN SHORTWAVE TRANSCEIVER POWER AMPLIFIER [USILITEL' MOSHCHNOSTI]," by V[ladimir V.] Drozdov, RA3AO [ex-UA3AAO].

pp 20 - 23: "TRANSCEIVER RADIOFREQUENCY CIRCUIT [RADIOCHASTOTNYY BLOK TRANSIVERA]," by V. Prokof'yev, RA3ACE, and V. Polyakov, RA3AAE, Moscow. [See bibliography at right.]

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◆ РАДИО № 7, 1986 г.

pp 26 - 28: "PERSONAL RADIOAMATEUR COMPUTER 'RADIO-86RK,'" by D. Gorshkov, G. Zelenko, Yu. Ozerov, and S. Popov, Moscow. [One of a series.]

p 53: "'PROGRESS' IS 30 YEARS OLD."

Thousands of those trained [vospitanniki] in the popular "Progress" club in Orenburg have selected technical specialities. The upper photo shows visitors at collective station UZ9SWU, and the lower photo shows training being performed by V. P. Porubaymekh, UW9SM, leader of the radio circle.

p 56: "WHAT WAS WRITTEN ABOUT IN 'RADIOAMATEUR' ['RADIOLYUBITEL''] MAGAZINE NO. 7 (JULY) FOR 1927.

p 58: "INTERCHANGEABLE FOREIGN AND SOVIET TRANSISTORS." [Continuation of lists in RADIO #10/1985 and ##01-04-05-06/1986.]

pp 59 - 60: "QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE OFF-SITE CONFERENCE OF RADIO MAGAZINE READERS."

This questionnaire, in contrast to those circulated earlier, is thought of by the "Radio" editors as an off-site readers' conference. Having in mind that each of the 1,200,000 copies of "Radio" magazine is read by an average of 2 to 3 persons, no other possibility suggested itself for a frank discussion about the magazine.

Anyone, whether a subscriber or not, may participate; it is hoped DOSAAF workers will do so. If there's not enough room or the questionnaire isn't available, a separate letter may be sent.

1. Last name, first name, patronymic?
2. Age: Under 18, 18 - 30, 30 - 40, over 40? (underline answer)
3. Profession or occupation?
4. Education (if studying now, where)?
5. How long a radio amateur: Less than three years, three to ten years, over ten years?
6. How many years a reader of "Radio"? Less than three years, three to ten years, over ten years?
7. Are you a subscriber; obtain the magazine in kiosks; read it in a library?
8. Specific interest in radio area (radiosport, construction, introduction of industrial radioelectronics at workplace, etc.)?
9. Where do you engage in amateur radio? At a sport-technical club or only at home?
10. Which of the columns or sections listed below do you read regularly? [31 listed.]
11. Subjects you would like to see treated in the column "Microprocessor Technology"?
12. Concerning the articles on the personal computer "Radio-86RK," do you find the computer suitable? How should it be expanded? Should there be industrially-made kits for assembly under amateur conditions? Would you buy such a kit, consisting of a basic computer board, tuned up [??? - v otlazhennom vide], with a programmed permanent memory [PZU], and with keyboards [i platy klaviatury], if the cost were between 250 and 300 rubles?
13. List two or three subjects for the column "Horizons of Science and Technology" (bearing in mind those covered in the last three to five years).
14. How do you like the editors' recent practice of conducting mini-contests [mini-konkursy]? What subjects for mini-contests would you suggest?
15. Which articles on construction have you used for contruction projects, in full or in part? [Several authors are named, the first Vladimir V. Drozdov, RA3AO, ex-UA3AAO, whose articles appeared in RADIO's ##08-09-11-12/1985 and 02-04-05-06-07/1986.]
16. How many contruction projects that you perform are based on microcircuits? Transistors? Both?
17. Your opinion on the availability of radioparts in your city or town? Do you order by mail? Suggestions on improving availibility to radio amateurs of necessary parts and material.
18. Which construction projects would you like to see described in the magazine?
19. What would you like to read about in the "Information Sheet" ["Spravochnyy listok"] section?
20. Do you find the technical level and the writing style satisfactory?
21. Do you make use in your work of material published in the sections "For Educational Institutions of DOSAAF," "This is How DOSAAF Trainees Serve," and "On the Roads of Heroes"?
22. Suggestions for improving the layout [oformleniya] of the magazine.

23. Your opinion of the "'Radio' for Beginners" section?
24. General impressions of the magazine and its contents; remarks, advice, suggestions.

Please mark the envelope "Anketa" ["Questionnaire"] and mail it by 1 December 1986 to: 123362, Moskva, D-362, Volokolamskoye shosse, 88, stroyeniye 5, Redaktsiya zhurnala "Radio" [Editors of "Radio" Magazine, 88 Volokolamskoye shosse, Building 5, 123362 MOSCOW D-362].

Thanks in advance.

Inner back cover: "NERL'-206-STEREO."

Portable stereophonic recorder [magnitola] consisting of a six-band receiver (Long Wave, Medium Wave, Short Wave I -- 5.92 - 6.2 MHz, SW II -- 9.5 - 9.8 MHz, SW III -- 11.6 - 12.1 MHz, Ultra Short Wave -- 65.8 - 74 MHz). Operates on either 220 V mains or on six 373 batteries (9 V) [6 x 1.5 V assumed].

Real receiver sensitivity [??? -- real'naya chuvstvitel'nost' -- field strength -- ???] using internal magnetic antenna [??? -- vnutrennyaya magnitnaya antenna -- ferrite-bar antenna -- ???]: 2.5 mV/m on LW, 1.5 on MW, 0.35 on SW, and 0.015 on USW [presumably the Soviet FM band]... Power consumption: 20 Watts. Dimensions: 450 x 280 x 150 mm. Weight: 7.4 kg. [Price not given.]

Back cover: "MIKROSHA," [presumably made by] TsKRO [expansion unknown] "Radiotekhnika."

That's the name of a personal computer, production of which will begin in Moscow in the very near fugure.

The "Mikrosha" is compact and may be used with any TV set and a cassette tape recorder.

Such things as home files, telephone numbers, and addresses will be put in memory by "Mikrosha." When switched on it can display on the screen a list of things to do or birthdates of relatives and friends. It will teach your children to read and write, and will execute and analyze calculations, graphs, etc.

The "Mikrosha" consists of two parts, the basic one containing the keyboard and the system unit [??? - sistemnyy blok], and the other the power supply. Provision is made to attach a printer and to increase capacity by means of connecting external modules.

Operating memory:		Not less than 32 kbytes
Permanent memory:		Not less than 2 kbytes
Image format:	Alphanumeric:	25 lines, 64 symbols each
	Pseudographic:	128 dots hozizontally
		50 dots vertically
Power supply voltage:		220 v, 50 Hz or 42 V, 50 Hz
Dimensions:		390 x 230 x 55 mm
Retail price (approx.)		550 rubles.

[End of RADIO section]

[Summary translations of selected articles from the twice-weekly newspaper Sovetskiy Patriot (SP), which carries amateur news:
(1) In a sequentially-numbered series of articles, dated the same as the issues in which they appear, entitled NLD (Na lyubitel'skikh diapazonakh - On the Amateur Bands), edited by Boris Grigor'yevich Stepanov, UW3AX;
(2) in collections of separate articles, numbered for the month during which they are scheduled to appear, called Klub radiolyubiteley EFIR (Radioamateurs' Club AIRWAVES);
(3) within columns devoted to sports or other subjects;
(4) in independent articles.]

[NOTE: Regarding (2) above, SP of 30 July 1986 (see second item below) treated the EFIR collection differently, shortening the name of the collection to EFIR (AIRWAVES; literally "ETHER") and omitting the number corresponding to the month; the latter change may mean that the recent slippage in the former once-per-month appearance of EFIR has become permanent.]

[Remarks by the translator are enclosed in (square) brackets.]

SP, 23 July 1986, NLD-1161:

Competitions [Contests]

[Rules for YO DX CONTEST, 2 - 3 August 1986.]

[Rules for c.w. portion of WAE DX CONTEST, 9 - 10 August 1986.]

Club News

An expedition by a group of Perm' radioamateurs using the call UV9FB will operate from the Komi-Permyatskiy Autonomous District [Komi-Permystskiy avtonomnyy okrug] on shortwave, ultrashortwave, and via satellite from 24 through 27 July 1986.

Collective station UZ9YWP will operate from the Pioneer Camp "Gaydarovets" during the summer period. Those contacting UZ9YWP three times (with three different operators) during the summer period (until 25 August) and UZ9YWH (operating from the "Sputnik" pioneer camp) once qualify for the memorial diploma "Gaydarovets"; log extracts and 50 kopecks for the memorial diploma go to: 656061, Barnaul, Pavlovskiy trakt, 68, GSYuT [expansion of GSYuT unknown] [GSYuT, 68 Pavlovskiy Highway, 656061 BARNAUL].

SP, 30 July 1986, EFIR:

"THE 'FOXES' WERE CONQUERED BY THE SKILLED ONE," by A. Grif, republic-category judge. Master of Sport International Class Ch. Guliyev [pictured] of the RSFSR team was the absolute champion in the finals of the IXth Summer Spartacade of the Peoples of the USSR in Sport Radiodirectionfinding, held some 30 km from Kishenev.

"THE PIONEER CAMP GOES ON THE AIR," by V. Zaushitsyn, UW3DR, deputy chief judge, 'Pioneer Airwaves' competitions; operator, UK3KP.

The first round of the All-Union "Pioneer Airwaves-86" Shortwave Radiocommunication Competitions has taken place. For the fourth year in a row the "Komsomol'skaya Pravda" station [both UK3KP and RK3KP are believed to be assigned to "Komsomol'skaya Pravda"], together with the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR, are conducting a radio tournament. Last year all reports (around 400) were entered into an "Iskra-226" computer; P. Strezev, UA3AOS, wrote a judging program that corrected mistakes as entries were made and prepared tables with results.

[In photo:] Sasha [Aleksandr] Medvedev, Vasya [Vasiliy] Korovin, and Vladik [Vladimir] Kazakov, from the pioneer camp "Iskorka" (Bryansk), contestants in the "Pioneer Airwaves" competitions. [In brackets following the children's nicknames are what are assumed to be the corresponding full names.]

"RADIOAMATEUR FROM THE SETTLEMENT OF YARKISHLAK," by T. Khayrullayev, Kirgizskaya SSR. [Of interest is that fact that both the author and the amateur written about may be assumed, by their names, to be natives of the Kirgizskaya (Kirghiz) SSR.]

At first glance the house on Kirov Street in the village of Yarkishlak doesn't look different from the others, but even a beginning radioamateur would know a colleague lives here by the antenna on the roof. It's a radiosportsman named Nurmat Rakhmatov, UM8NAW, member of the presidium of the Oshskaya oblast' radio club. In 1981 the words "Ya - UM8NAW, kak slyshite menya? Priyem!" ["This is UM8NAW, how do you read ('hear') me? Over ('Reception')"] first rang out over the air. He has now worked 175 countries and already has QSL cards from 135.

SP, 30 July 1986, NLD-1162:

Competitions

[Additional rules for the WAE DX CONTEST (see NLD-1161).] On 80 and 20 meters the following segments are recommended: 3,510 - 3,560 kHz and 14,000 - 14,060 kHz. Reports on a separate standard form for each band, accompanied by a summary sheet, must be sent to the Central Radio Club not later than 15 days following the contest.

Diplomas [Certificates]

[Rules for the "Orel -- City of the First Salute" diploma.] Contacts on ultrashortwave bands (144 MHz and higher) and also via radio amateur satellites [nothing said about this being limited to Soviet satellites] count the same as 10 QSO's. Applications go to: 302019, g. Orel, ul. Veselaya, 2, OTSh (diplomnoy komissii) [Diploma Commission, United Technical School, 2 Veselaya Street, 302019 OREL].

[NOTE: Regarding diplomas, see note on page 11 above.]

Radioamateur Satellites

Herewith reference data for calculating passes of "Radio"-series satellites. Serial number, time (UT), and ascending-node longitude are given for first orbit occurring on 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 August:

"Radio-5": 20,339 - 0120 - 249; 20,423 - 0042 - 271; 20,507 - 0005 - 251; 20,592 - 0126 - 282; 20,676 - 0049 - 283.

"Radio-7": 20,400 - 0047 - 247; 20,485 - 0138 - 271; 20,569 - 0030 - 264; 20,645 - 0122 - 288; 20,738 - 0014 - 282.

SP, 6 August 1986, NLD-1163:

Diplomas

[Rules for obtaining "S. P. Korolev" diploma.] Address: 262008, Zhitomir, ul. Iv. Kochergi, 2-a, RTSh DOSAAF (diplomnoy komissii) [2-a Iv. Kocherga Street, 262008 ZHITOMIR].

[Rule changes for "Belarus'" and "Minsk" diplomas.] Address: 220001, Minsk-1, ab./yashch. 19 [P. O. Box 19, 220001 MINSK-1].

SP, 13 August 1986, NLD-1164:

Competitions

The second round of the All-Union "Pioneer Airwaves" Competitions, rules for which were published in NLD-1159 and NLD-1161, will take place 17 August.

The c.w. portion of the AA DX CONTEST will take place 23 - 24 August; rules are analogous to those for the 'phone portion published in NLD-1156 except RST replaces RS and contacts on 1.8 MHz are allowed (and are worth 3 points).

HB9AGA took first place in the RSGB FIRST 1.8 MHZ CONTEST with 275 points. Among U stations UR2RDJ came in tenth with 75 points.

CONGRATS! [In English as final paragraph of section.]

Diplomas

The Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs has established the diploma "LZ 60 JUBILEE AWARD" in connection with the 60th anniversary of the national radio amateur movement. Sixty points for contacts with Bulgarian amateurs are required. Contacts with LZ6 stations are worth 6 points and with all others 1 point and must take place between 1 July and 31 December of this year. Applications [from Soviet amateurs] are due at the Central Radio Club Named After E. T. Krenkel' by 1 July 1987.

Club News

RA3GD/UM and RA3GF/UM will operate from Issyk-Kul'skaya oblast' [Oblast' #033, normal "letter-letter" combination M-Q] until 28 August on all bands CW and SSB. QSL's go to the home call. Submitted by V. Naumenko, Chairman of the Sport Technical Club of the Lipetsk DOSAAF United Technical School.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the radio section of the Kaunas Polytechnic Institute Named After A. Snechkus. A memorial pennant [vympel] will be issued ... . Thirty points are required. Contacts with UP1BZO are worth ten points, with UP2PCK five points, and with other members (who will add KPI to their RST report during this period) one point. Log extracts go to: 233000, Litovskaya SSR, g. Kaunas, ab./yashch. 210 [P. O. Box 210, 233000 KAUNAS (Lithuania)]. Submitted by A. Vinngris, UP3BO.

Recently more and more information has been reaching the editors about short-wave events sponsored by local federations of radio sport (activity days, competitions, etc.). We are obliged to remind all organizers of such events to coordinate them with the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR (FRS USSR) in the prescribed manner. Information on events that have not gone through the FRS USSR will not be published; therefore when sending information in to the editors it is necessary to cite the permit number issued by the FRS USSR. Such information must be submitted not less than a month prior to the desired date of publication. Rules for activity days and competitions must avoid complicated provisions. Due to limited space, publication of lengthy reports on events sponsored by local FRS's is unlikely. We take this opportunity to remind readers that rules for new diplomas or revised rules for old ones must only be submitted for publication in "NLD" after approval by the FRS USSR.

SP, 20 August 1986, NLD-1165:

Competitions

The following competitions will take place next month: 6 - 7 September - LZ DX CONTEST (c.w.); 6 - 7 September - IARU REGION 1 VHF CONTEST (c.w. and 'phone); 13 - 14 September - WAE DX CONTEST ('phone); 20 September - On-site/Off-site Shortwave Telegraph Radiocommunication Championship of the USSR; 20 - 21 September - All-Union Ultrashortwave Competitions for the Cup of the Central Committee of DOSAAF USSR (c.w. and 'phone); 20 - 21 - SAC CONTEST (c.w.); 27 - 28 September - SAC CONTEST (c.w.).

[Rules for LZ DX CONTEST, 7 September 1986.]

[Rules for IARU REGION 1 VHF CONTEST, 6 - 7 September 1986.]

Club News

The Federation of Radio Sport of Kremenchug is drawing up a list of the callsigns of radioamateur veterans of the Great Patriotic War who took part in the liberation of Poltavskaya oblast'. Information is to be sent to: 315300, Poltavskaya oblast', g. Kremenchuk, ul. Krasina, 3, GSTK DOSAAF (FRS) [Federation of Radio Sport, City Sport Technical Club, 3 Krasin Street, 315300 KREMENCHUG (Poltavskaya oblast')]. Submitted by V. Tishko, UB5HGK, Chairman of the Presidium of the City FRS.

SP, 27 August 1986, NLD-1166:

Competitions

[Rules for IARU REGION 1 FIELD DAY, 6 - 7 September 1986.]

Rules for the 'phone portion of the WAE DX CONTEST are analogous to those given in NLD-1162 and NLD-1163.

The c.w. "Ural Cup" competitions will take place on 6 September from 1400 to 1800 MSK in the segments 3,520 - 3,600 and 1,845 - 1,930 kHz. Amateurs from oblasts 165/154/140/141/134/167/095/084 are invited to participate. ... Reports go by 16 September to: 614600, Perm', ul. Saranskaya, 3, OTSh DOSAAF (sudeyskoy kollegii) [Judges' Collegium, DOSAAF United Technical School, 3 Saranskaya Street, 614600 PERM'].

Club News

A series of events is planned by the FRS's of Moscow city and of Moskovskaya, Kalininskaya, Kaluzhskaya, Ryazanskaya, and Tul'skaya oblasts to mark the 45th anniversary of the Battle near Moscow. All amateurs holding the medal "For the Defense of Moscow" are requested to provide information on themselves to: 117311, Moskva, V-311, prospekt Vernadskogo, 9/10, MGSTRK (shtab radioekspeditsii) [Radioexpedition Staff, MGSTRK, 9/10 Vernadskiy Prospekt, 117311 MOSCOW V-311]. ... Submitted by K. Shul'gin, UA3DA, Chief of the Staff of the Radioexpedition.

SP, 3 September 1986, NLD-1167:

Radioamateur Satellites

In connection with the effect of shade on "Radio" satellite orbits, the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR has changed the dates for satellite activity week to 8 through 14 September (see NLD-1149 for rules). Until 24 September "Radio-5" and "Radio-7" will translate amateur-station signals daily (except Wednesday). The automatic answerer "Robot" will be switched on on the "Radio-7" satellite.

The dates for the All-Union Satellite Radiocommunication Competitions for the Cup of the Central Radio Club of the USSR Named After E. T. Krenkel' have also been changed -- to 21 December.

Reference data covering each day of the activity week (8 through 14 September) given below include the number of the first orbit of the (UT) day, the time (UT), and the ascending-node longitude:

"Radio-5":

20,784 - 0002 - 285 20,797 - 0156 - 316
20,809 - 0151 - 316 20,821 - 0145 - 316 20,833 - 0140 - 316
20,845 - 0135 - 316 20,857 - 0129 - 317.

"Radio-7":

20,847 - 0045 - 304 20,859 - 0036 - 303
20,871 - 0026 - 303 20,883 - 0016 - 302 20,895 - 0007 - 301
20,908 - 0156 - 330 20,920 - 0146 - 329.

Competitions

The first On-site/Off-site Telegraph Shortwave Championship of the USSR for the Cup and Prizes of "Radio" Magazine will take place from 0500 to 1400 MSK 20 September. Off-site participants follow the standard rules for All-Union shortwave radiocommunication competitions, including calculation of points.

On-site participants will operate on 7 and 14 MHz from Aleksandrov, Vladimirskaya oblast'. Each on-site participant will be regarded as operating from a separate "oblast'" for purposes of point count by off-site participants. On-site participants will operate from 0800 to 1200 MSK. Calls and numbers to be used by on-site participants will be announced later. ...

During the period of preparing for and operating in the WAE DX CONTEST (12 through 14 September), Soviet radioamateurs may use the segment 3.65 - 3.8 MHz.

Club News

On 9 September, amateurs from Lyudinovo, Kaluzhskaya oblast', will sponsor an activity day. Results go to: 249400, Kaluzhskaya oblast' g. Lyudinovo, agregatnyy zavod (radioklub) [Radio Club, Aggregate(?) Plant, 249400 LYUDINOVO (Kaluzhskaya Oblast')]. Submitted by G. Tyupichev, UA3XBI, leader of the radio club.

[end]

73,

Dexter Anderson, W4KM
150 Eleventh Street SE
Washington DC USA 20003-3911

[From letter of 22 July 1986 from Boris G. Stepanov, UW3AX, in response to a request to clarify a report that Yuriy Gagarin held an individual amateur call-sign]

In radioamateur publications (particularly in American ones), reports appear from time to time to the effect that Yuriy Gagarin, the first cosmonaut in the world, was a shortwaver and [that he] accordingly held an individual radio amateur call-sign.

However, these reports do not correspond to reality. None of the Soviet cosmonauts had or has an individual radio amateur call-sign, although some of them went on the air at collective amateur radiostations. This was related, in particular, in our magazine, in the item "Collective [Station] of 'Komsomol'skaya Pravda'" (No. 3, 1983, p. 8), and in the item "On Our Cover" (No. 3, 1984, p. 14).